

The Mint Master



October's Agenda

- Greetings — Robie Cagle
- Mini Exhibit — Connor Cagle
- News & Views— Colin Cagle
- Coin Quiz — Larry Kimura
- Spotlight — Angelique Cagle
- Refreshments - Larry Nielsen

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hello All,

Another month has passed us by and it will be time to meet again shortly. I continue to learn a great deal as a clerk at Majestic Coins. Recently I have been learning a bit more concerning errors, especially Hub doubling. I am certain that Kelly will describe this and its' relationship to errors, or non errors when he discusses errors in our meeting. There are many things we need to be aware of when it comes to error coinage and how to recognize those things which are errors, and those things which are not errors. I look forward

to hearing Kelly speak on the subject this month.

It always amazes me how time flies by. It seems like only yesterday when we last met. As I get older it seems like time just speeds by while as a youth it seemed to creep by. No matter, it is always a joy and a pleasure to see you all and I always look forward to seeing you all.

This month will be our clubs coin show and I encourage everyone to either sign up to help set up, take down, or run the table, doing so helps you earn tickets for our prize drawing at our Christmas Dinner. I would also en-

courage everyone to attend the show where hopefully you may be able to find some deals and work on finishing or even starting new collections. As you know a great deal of our Christmas budget comes from this event so participating only helps in this regard. Bring your friends, neighbors, Scouts, past members etc. and have a wonderful experience at the show.

See you all on the 14th!

Robie Cagle

UNS President

October's PROGRAM— Speaker—Kelly Finnegan on Mint Errors and Varieties

We will have a special program this month with Kelly Finnegan speaking on mint errors and varieties.

Kelly has significant experience in this area working with Registry Mint as well

as operating his own Penny Press Mint. He will discuss how these errors occur and which types of errors are common and those which are not. Don't miss this meeting, it will be very informative.



FEATURE ARTICLE

Registry Sets & Ultra High Graded Modern Coins revisited.

I wrote last month about Registry Sets as well as ultra-grade modern sets. I recently received auction catalogues from both Stacks-Bowers and Heritage which not surprisingly contained several of these coins that were highlighted in their catalogues. By the time we have our meeting this month they will have been hammered and I thought I would list several for you to possibly monitor and take your best guess as to what they will sell for. Most of us look at coins minted in 1961/62 or thereabouts for granted. If we collect these sets most strive to obtain an unblemished BU specimen. Then there are those that nothing but the best will suffice. How much would you spend for the following coins? Actual prices realized will be posted in next months Mint Master (or you can look them up on-line) Let us know how close you came to a winning bid if you were in competition for them.

STACKS/BOWERS

Lot 18 - 1957 MS-67 Red Lincoln Cent / Population 9 with zero finer

Lot 52 - 1961-D MS-64+ Full Steps Jefferson Nickel / Population 1 with 1 finer in MS-65 FS

HERITAGE

Lot 4636 - 1962 MS-67 Red Lincoln Cent / 12 in MS-67, one finer in MS67+

Lot 4747 - 1862-D MS-67 Washington Quarter / Tied with 7 others as the finest known

Lot 4800 - 1961-D Franklin Half Dollar MS-66 FBL / Tied with 19 others, 1 finer in MS67+

Lot 4801 - 1962-D Franklin Half Dollar MS-66 FBL / Tied with 13 others, 1 finer in MS67+

Lot 5164 - 1995-W Silver Eagle PF-70 Deep Cameo / Tied with 45 others

Lot 3428 - 1952-S Roosevelt Dime MS-68 FB / Tied with 2 others as the finest known

Lot 3634 - 1966 SMS Kennedy Half Dollar SF-67 Deep Cameo / Tied with 27 others, 4 finer



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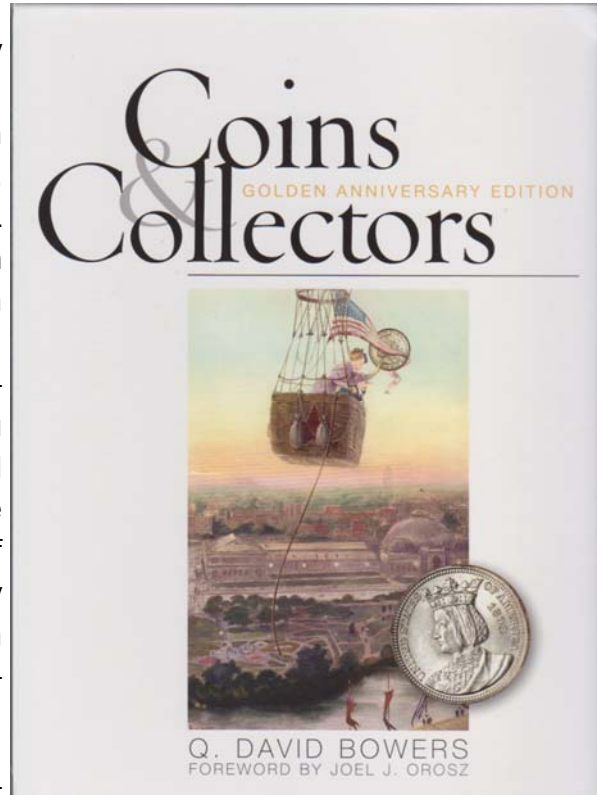
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BOOK REVIEW — Coins & Collectors

This month's book review is the subject another offering from the desk of Q. David Bowers entitled 'Coins & Collectors' Golden Anniversary Edition. This is the third book, actually the fourth, of a series which began in 1964 with 'Coins and Collectors.' It was followed with 'Adventures with Rare Coins' in 1979 and 'More Adventures with Rare Coins' in 2002. All of these books should be part of every numismatic library as they contain some of the most interesting stories you will ever read. This book is on high quality glossy paper in full color containing 51 fascinating stories in 404 pages. Reprinted by permission in this Mint Master is chapter 31 "Let The Eagle Fly." This is a story about a little known token which many have attributed to Mormon origins and which others are not sure what its origin is. I include this as an example of the style and content which is typical of the other 50 chapters. Some contain stories which many of you may never have heard of while others are stories of old friends. Some examples are 'The Erie Canal Medal,' 'The Rare 1876-CC Twenty Cent Piece,' and 'A Reminiscence of 1955.' The book has been profusely illustrated with many pictures, ads of the period, and every other image which adds to the mystique and history of the item(s) being described.



Many of the books in numismatic libraries are simply catalogues, price lists, and valuation guides. While important as these books are, they hardly make a good evening or two of reading as one can be easily bored by column after column of numbers. This like many of Mr. Bowers books makes our hobby come alive. Seldom has this much research and history been incorporated into a single book. The reason can be easily understood, decades and decades of personal experience by one of the most prolific writers our hobby has ever seen as well as what may be one of the premier numismatic libraries in the world housed by Stacks/Bowers.

The price of this 400+ page high quality book is a mere \$29.95 from Whitman. I would give it my highest recommendation and everyone who reads this should immediately order a copy. If you are on the sidelines of deciding if you should acquire a copy show this article to your wife or husband. If you may be a hard person to purchase a gift for it would definitely make a wonderful birthday or Christmas gift. Remember, there is way less than 100 shopping days till Christmas.

Doug Nyholm

COUNTERFEIT CORNER - Non-Key Date Fakes / 1914-S Lincoln Cent

We read quite a bit about counterfeit coins in today's numismatic marketplace. When we think of counterfeit coins key date examples first come to mind. Included are the 1909-S VDB, 1955 DDO Cent, 1916-D Mercury and others that are considered 'Key Dates' which generally command at least hundreds of dollars but more often thousands. Coins such as the pictured 1914-S Lincoln are seldom given much of a second glance when one acquires an example to fill that hole in their set. Yes, of course we are all aware of the possibility that we may encounter a fake 1914-D but certainly not one with the 'S' mintmark. It has been said that counterfeits exist of almost every minted U.S. coin and some are quite crude while others may be far above average. I looked at the pics of this Lincoln which was recently identified by NGC and thought, wow, it would have certainly got past me. Of course it is not a coin worth just a few dollars but even with Red Book values of \$85 in EF and \$175 in AU it may very well not be a suspect coin at all. Looking at the pics and description, even with the NGC description the diagnostics which are very minor are not easy to pick up. NGC identified it as an above average counterfeit. Why do I write regarding this deceptive counterfeit? Just to bring to your attention that one should never drop their guard when spending your hard earned money.



Disclosed diagnostics regarding this cent are: 1) Incorrectly shaped "S" mintmark 2) The Wheat Ears and letters UNI are soft 3) Two spurs at the rim next to the upright of the L in Liberty. 4) Several miniscule raised dots in the fields. I don't know about you but this would have got past me. Click the images and enlarge the pics and ask yourself, would it have fooled you?

Doug Nyholm

HOTZ off the Press | Notes on National Banks

Mark Hotz

Nauvoo, Ill., built by the Mormons

Some years back I had the opportunity to visit historic Nauvoo, Ill., an early Mormon city. With the advent of the popularity of the Broadway show *The Book of Mormon* and the recent sale of an extremely rare Nauvoo National Bank Note, I thought it would be an opportune time to present this town to you.

Nauvoo had risen on the banks of the Mississippi River in the early 1840s, a promising new city built by zealous and diligent Mormons out of a swampy wasteland. It was also the site of the first great Mormon temple. Members of the Mormon Church fleeing persecution in Missouri founded Nauvoo (whose name derives from the Hebrew for "beautiful place" as well as the Hebrew word for "prophecy") in 1839. Joseph Smith founded the Mormon Church in Manchester, N.Y., in 1830. Suspicion, jealousy and xenophobia forced the Mormons to migrate westward, first to Kirtland, Ohio, and when chased from there, to Missouri.

The Missouri sojourn did not last long either, as the growing size of a community with different beliefs than most Christians produced a conflict with the people of Missouri. After an election riot, Gov. Lilburn W. Boggs said, "Mormons must be exterminated or driven from the state." A few days later, mobs joined by the Missouri state militia attacked a Mormon settlement killing 20 people in what was called the "massacre at Haun's Mill." After this, the Mormons were ordered to leave Missouri. Joseph Smith and some other Mormon leaders agreed to remain under arrest while about 15,000 Missouri Mormons fled to the free state of Illinois where they were welcomed.

Joseph Smith selected a site at a large bend of the Mississippi River north of Quincy to be the site of Nauvoo. The non-Mormon residents watched in awe and with just a little jealousy as the hard-working Mormons began to prosper. They dug canals to drain the swampy land, and they built brick houses and structures while most other residents of this area lived in simple log cabins. Within a few years the population reached 12,000, making Nauvoo the largest or second largest city in Illinois (depending on which statistics one considers).

Insisting upon controlling local institutions, the Mormons assembled the



Joseph Smith, seen here in a vintage photo, was the founder of the Church of Latter Day Saints and a resident of Nauvoo. He was murdered at the jail in Carthage, Ill., in 1844.



This 1840s photo shows the completed Mormon Temple on Temple Hill in Nauvoo.



This contemporary watercolor painting shows the completed Temple at Nauvoo. Compare this picture to the photo of the Temple as it appears today, restored to its original splendor.



Here is the old First National Bank of Nauvoo building as it appears in Nauvoo today, now used by the State Bank of Nauvoo.



Here is a photo taken by the author of the restored Mormon Temple at Nauvoo. The restoration was completed in 2002 using the exact specifications and materials as the original structure.

Nauvoo Legion, a well-trained Mormon army provided cannon by Springfield officials eager to court the bloc-voting sect. The Mormons' exclusive social and economic organization and clumsy attempts to influence Illinois politics quickly led to controversy with other

Illinoisans. By 1844, Illinois Gov. Thomas Ford had called out the state militia to quell the growing conflict. In June of that year, an anti-Mormon mob rushed the jail holding the Mormon leader Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum and murdered them. Despite the governor's ineffectual

HOTZ off the Press

efforts to keep the peace, lawlessness persisted for two years in what has come to be known as the Mormon War.

Brigham Young, the new leader of the Mormons at Nauvoo, agreed to leave Illinois but not until the spectacular temple that the Mormons had been building on Nauvoo Hill was complete. When it was finally completed in 1845, most of the Mormons had moved on. The local residents attacked the temple and burned it down in 1846.

There was little or no Mormon presence in Nauvoo until recent times, and in 1999 the Mormon Church announced that it would rebuild the great temple at Nauvoo. It was reconstructed on the same site as the original using exactly the same materials and dimensions. This fantastic structure was completed and dedicated in 2002.

In 1849, a group known as Icarians moved to the Nauvoo area to establish a utopian socialist commune based on the ideas of French philosopher Etienne Cabet. At its peak, the commune had a population of over 500, but it, like all of the socialist communities established during the 1830s and 1840s, faded into obscurity after the death of its founder. Although many of the early buildings remained, the largely depopulated town drifted into somnolence, only to become a major tourist attraction in the latter years of the 20th century.

Nauvoo today is really like two separate towns. It is located on the banks of the Mississippi about 10 miles south of Fort Madison and around 11 miles north of Keokuk, Iowa. The upper town, built on the bluffs overlooking old Nauvoo, grew up after the Mormons had left. The lower town, containing remnants of the original Nauvoo and restored period structures, lies on the banks of the Mississippi River. The restored Mormon Temple stands in gleaming white marble on Temple Square and dominates the area. The town has become quite a tourist attraction, and is a mecca for Mormon visitors and others interested in history.

On the corner where Main Street meets Temple Square, I spotted a classic old-style bank building that had once been the home of the First National Bank of Nauvoo, which received charter 8998 in 1907. This was a very small bank that operated for 12 years until liquidated in 1919. During that period, it only issued \$192,000 worth of national currency—a very small amount. The business of the bank was taken over by the State Bank of



Here is a photo of the Nauvoo House Hotel, the construction of which was made possible by share subscriptions, the certificates for which resembled bank notes. The site is now a historical site in Nauvoo.



This Series of 1902 \$20 National Bank Note is the only Nauvoo note to ever be offered a public sale. It is either unique or one of two known, depending on how accurate the census is. Photo courtesy Heritage Auctions.



An unissued remainder \$50 share certificate for the construction of the Nauvoo House, a hotel that still stands in Nauvoo today.

Nauvoo. Just a single note was reported and none were ever available for sale until one turned up and was offered by Heritage Auctions in 2011. It sold for \$9,200. I have included a photo of it and a photo of the old bank building as it appears today.

Since the National Bank Notes of Nauvoo are virtually non-collectible, persons interested in obtaining a numismatic souvenir of Nauvoo from Mormon days usually had to settle for the remainder notes of the Nauvoo House Association. These were actually circulating share certificates sold in the 1840s to finance the construction of the Nauvoo House, a hotel. The Nauvoo House still stands in Nauvoo today. I have included a photo of the hotel as well as a \$50 remainder note issued by the Nauvoo House Association.

The temple is well worth a visit to Nauvoo. It is nothing short of spectacular. The building soars 165 feet high and is a landmark for miles around. The most amazing thing about it is to imagine how it must have dominated the area in 1845. I have included a photo showing the temple

circa 1846, a contemporary watercolor of the temple, and my own photo of the reconstructed temple as it appears today.

No visit to Nauvoo would be complete without a stop at the Nauvoo LDS Visitor Center and Museum where one can see a film on the life of Joseph Smith and watch a live musical performance about the Mormons in Nauvoo. Many early structures have been reconstructed including the Joseph Smith homestead, Brigham Young House, and other homes and businesses. I must say that during my short visit to Nauvoo, virtually everyone I encountered went out of his or her way to be friendly and helpful. Although I arrived at the Nauvoo LDS Visitor Center almost at closing time, they arranged to have the film on the life of Joseph Smith screened for me, and I was the only one in the theater. The film was very interesting and provided a lot of information that I had not known previously.

Readers may address questions or comments about this article or National Bank Notes in general to Mark Hotz directly by email at markbhotz@aol.com.

Octobers' Quiz

What About Errors?



1. Which term best describes a coin with a negative image on one side?
 - A. Partial Strike
 - B. Brockage
 - C. Multiple Images
 - D. Uniface
2. Which term is typical of an example of a die adjustment strike?
 - A. Blank Planchet
 - B. Foreign Material
 - C. Very Weak Strike
 - D. Half Design Missing
3. What describes an indent strike?
 - A. Planchet partially missing
 - B. Partial Design
 - C. Portion of design blank
 - D. Second Planchet attached
4. What is a mule?
 - A. Double Strike
 - B. Obv & Rev not intended to be mated
 - C. Struck on wrong metal
 - D. A stubborn animal
5. What best describes an overstrike?
 - A. A coin struck twice
 - B. A folded coin
 - C. A struck coin struck again
 - D. A coin struck over and over
6. What describes a capped die?
 - A. Struck out of collar
 - B. Overpunched Mintmark
 - B. A re-hubbed die
 - C. Single coin struck many times



UNS MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2014

November - Elections & Bourse

December - Christmas Dinner

January 2015 - Bourse

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From Banknote Reporter by Mark Hotz

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Apparent. Minor Restorations.
Realized \$32,900



ICELAND. Islands Banki.
50 Kronur, 1904. P-12. PMG Very Fine 25
Net. Minor Rust, Stains.
Realized \$16,450



Lowell, Massachusetts. Prescott Bank, Lowell.
July 2, 1860: \$100. Uncirculated. Proof.
From the Crusader Collection.
Realized \$10,575



Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Union Bank. ND
(18xx). \$100. Uncirculated. Proof.
From the Peter Mayer Collection.
Realized \$22,325



Fr. 163. 1880 \$50 Legal Tender Note.
PCGS Gem New 65 PPQ.
Realized \$199,750



Fr. 167b. 1863 \$100 Legal Tender Note.
PCGS Very Fine 25.
Realized \$352,500



Fr. 193a. July 15, 1864 \$100 Compound
Interest Treasury Note. PCGS Very Fine 35
Apparent. Restorations.
Realized \$282,000



Fr. 197. 1863 \$20 Interest Bearing Note.
PCGS Very Fine 35.
Realized \$211,500



Fr. 324c. 1878 \$50 Silver Certificate.
PCGS Very Good 10 Apparent. Restorations.
Realized \$329,000



Fr. 372. 1890 \$20 Treasury Note.
PCGS Gem New 66 PPQ.
Realized \$188,000



Fr. 1191. 1882 \$50 Gold Certificate.
PCGS Extremely Fine 40.
Realized \$411,250



Fr. 1203. 1882 \$100 Gold Certificate.
PCGS Fine 15.
Realized \$470,000



Fr. 2220-J. 1928 \$5000 Federal
Reserve Note. Kansas City.
PCGS Extremely Fine 40.
Realized \$141,000



Fr. 594. Van Nuys, California. \$5 1902 PB.
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1892 Barber Dime VG
1892 Barber Quarter VG+
1930 Standing Liberty Quarter VF
1981 S Washington Quarter PF 69 Deep Cameo (not certified)
1906 O Barber Half Dollar VG+
1943 P Walking Liberty Half Dollar in Capital holder
1957 Franklin Half Dollar Proof
1972 P Type 3 & 1972 D Eisenhower Dollars AU-BU
1984 P LA Olympic Commem Dollar UNC
1984 S LA Olympic Commem Dollar Proof
1976 3-Coin Mint Set 40% silver
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1985 and 1986 Mint set
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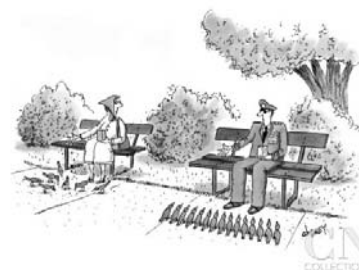
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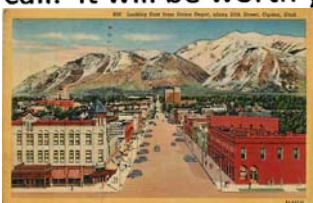


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YOUNG NUMISMATISTS

A LOOK AT VARIOUS CURRENCY HOLDER CHOICES

THE UTAH NUMISMATIC SOCIETY COIN SHOW

Our discussion of holders for our numismatic items would not be complete if we did not examine what is available to protect our currency items. For purposes of our discussion, currency means any of the U.S. or foreign 'paper' type money. By its very fragile nature, currency requires as much, and maybe even more, protection than coins, medals, and tokens. Holders and storage devices for currency are plentiful and require the same kind of careful evaluation we discussed last month. Again, protective and archival qualities as well as long term storage suitability are factors for evaluation. Holders used by dealers, collectors and numismatists to protect their currency items include:

SLEEVES



Sleeves come in a variety of sizes to accommodate the various sizes of old and modern U.S. and foreign currencies. Basically, there are two types. One is a fold over design which is a piece of protective material folded over and open on the ends and top. Some designs do have a fold over flap on the top leaving only the ends open. The other

type is the pocket style in which two or three sides are sealed to prevent the item from easily slipping out. I prefer the type where only the top is open.



Sleeves come in a variety of materials and thicknesses which provide varying degrees of protection. Archival safe is a must and museum grade sleeves are probably too lightweight for any use other than display or where there will be recurring handling. Manufacturers include BCW, Safe T, Frame-A-Coin, SAFGARD, Lighthouse, SAFE, and Supersafe. Most suppliers sell sleeves in packs of 10, 50, or 100 with prices running from 22¢-\$1.00 per sleeve depending on size, weight, and quantity ordered. Basically, visibility of contents is excellent and most sleeves have room for labeling.

HARD PLASTIC HOLDERS



Archival safe hard plastic holders are available in both snap lock and screw together styles. The snap lock style is available from BCW and Lighthouse with prices starting at \$2.50 per holder.



The screw together style is available from Capital Plastics with pricing starting at \$7.50 per holder. For display purposes these hard holders make for an excellent presentation and visibility of the enclosed item. Any labelling for providing item description will probably have to be done apart from the holder. Various holder dimensions could present a storage challenge.

STORAGE OPTIONS

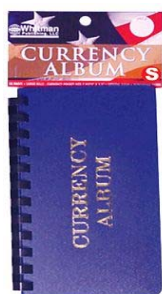


Archival safe currency storage boxes are available to safely store up to 100 sleeves. With prices starting at \$4.00 per box, the boxes are available in both standard duty and heavy duty (safe for transport) versions and come in two sizes to accommodate modern and large size sleeves. Whitman has a line of boxes which are specifically sized to store third party graded/certified currency holders with pricing starting at \$7.00 per box. Archival safe pages like those used to store 2x2s and flips for coins are also available for sleeve organization and storage.

YOUNG NUMISMATISTS



These pages, from highly respected names in the numismatic supplies field, fit standard three ring binders or those specifically made by/for the page manufacturers. Pages are available which have been designed and configured to allow safe storage of unsleeved, sleeved, and certified currency of all sizes. Some of the sources offering pages include BCW, Cowens, Economy, Lighthouse, Lindner, and Supersafe. Single page prices start at 25¢ per page and top out at \$1.75. Quantity related discounts can lower the per page cost to 20¢. Although many of the pages will permit safe storage of raw currency, I prefer to use sleeves for all of my currency and then the appropriate size storage page. This allows easy and safe removal of the protected currency from the page and is recommended by many of the suppliers. Once I arrange, organize, and bind storage pages together, I have created an album whether or not it is a simple three ring binder or specially designed and purchased album. Although I prefer the simpler standard three ring binder approach, I have purchased some specialty albums.



Specialty currency albums are available from H. E. Harris, Lighthouse, Lindner, Littleton, Safe, Supersafe, and Whitman. Pricing for these albums starts at \$4.00 and tops out in the \$60.00 range. I think I'll stay with my \$4.00 heavy duty binder that I can put 20-30 pages of my choice and then store up to 90 sleeved currency items

Hope this overview of currency holders and storage options helps in making decisions concerning safeguarding and storing your currency collectibles.

U. N. S UTAH COIN SHOW

October 17th and 18th, 2014 are two dates that should be marked on your calendar as very important. These are the dates for our club's annual coin show where we earn a large portion of the financial capability to pay for meeting prizes and refreshments, the annual club picnic, fees for use of our meeting location, our youth program, and our spectacular Christmas dinner prize program. But, does it offer even more for the new or young numismatist? I believe it does and hope you will take some time during this show to use some of the processes we have discussed this past year and especially these last few months. The location of the show is a familiar one and should allow you to refine some of your grading skills. Several factors are working in your favor if you're willing to spend a couple of hours learning and practicing. The venue is comfortable, well lit, reasonably quiet, has excellent dealer support and participation, and a broad array of numismatic collectibles. I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity fine tune and hone your numismatic skill set and maybe fill some of those holes in your collections. Hope to see you there.

Phil Clark



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A PAGE FROM THE 1959 12TH ED. RED BOOK

QUARTER DOLLARS STANDING LIBERTY TYPE

This type quarter was designed by Herman A. MacNeil. The left arm of Liberty is upraised bearing a shield in the attitude of protection, from which the cover is being drawn. The right hand bears the olive branch of peace. The designer's initial M is located above and to the right of the date.

There was a modification in 1917. The reverse has a new arrangement of the stars and the eagle is higher.

In 1925 a depression was made in the pedestal on which Liberty stands, and which bears the date. On the first issues the dates wore off easily because they were too high and were not protected by other features of the coin. The new "recessed" dates proved more durable as a result of this change.



Variety 1



Uncirculated Standing Liberty Quarters with full head are worth more than prices listed below.

	Good	Fine	Unc.
1916.....	\$ 62.50	\$110.00	\$235.00
1917 Variety 1.....	.60	2.50	7.00
1917D Variety 1.....	1.60	4.50	21.00
1917S Variety 1.....	2.50	8.00	24.00



Variety 2



1918S Over 7

	Good	Fine	Unc.		Good	Fine	Unc.
1917 Variety 2 \$	1.30	\$ 4.25	\$11.00	1924D.....	\$ 2.00	\$ 4.00	\$ 8.50
1917D Variety 2	2.60	8.00	32.50	1924S.....	3.50	9.00	35.00
1917S Variety 2	2.60	8.00	36.00	1925.....		1.50	7.50
1918.....	1.35	4.50	37.50	1926.....		1.75	8.50
1918D.....	2.25	6.00	37.50	1926D.....		1.50	5.50
1918S.....	1.35	4.50	27.50	1926S.....	1.00	14.00	80.00
1918S over 7				1927.....		1.50	9.50
(see above) ..	47.50	150.00	500.00	1927D.....	.50	1.75	6.50
1919.....	2.00	5.50	28.00	1927S.....	1.00	17.50	210.00
1919D.....	7.50	16.50	48.00	1928.....		1.50	9.50
1919S.....	9.50	35.00	125.00	1928D.....		1.00	5.50
1920.....	.85	2.75	10.00	1928S.....	.50	1.50	8.00
1920D.....	5.00	12.50	57.50	1929.....		1.00	5.50
1920S.....	1.75	5.00	27.50	1929D.....		1.50	7.50
1921.....	9.00	20.00	85.00	1929S.....		1.50	7.50
1923.....	.75	2.75	7.50	1930.....		1.00	5.00
*1923S.....	15.00	35.00	95.00	1930S.....		1.50	8.00
1924.....	.65	2.25	9.00				

*Beware altered date

[108]

CHAPTER 31

A Mysterious Token



The curious "Let the Egle Fly" token dated 1846. 26 mm.

A curious token dated 1846 was distributed by an unknown person or persons for reasons that have eluded modern researchers. In some ways the inscriptions seem to relate to the Mormons—but do they?

Let the "Egle" Fly

Among the mysteries in numismatics is the curious 1846-dated copper token with the inscription "Let the Egle Fly." Actually, there are two mysterious tokens, the other also discussed below.

The obverse of mysterious token no. 1 features a face surrounded by rays of glory. Around the border is lettered LET THE EGLE FLY / J.S.G.S.L.C.O. Dentils are around the edge. Punches were used for the letters as evidenced, for example, by the E's all being similar. Dentils around were added individually by hand and are of irregular length and spacing. A little dot seen on the nose of the face is a centering point for a compass that was used to draw a circle around the die so that the letters would be arranged at the same distance from the center.

The reverse has an eagle with a shield on its breast, evocative of federal silver and gold coin designs of the time, except that on the token the eagle has no legs. A prominent centering dot is within the shield. Eleven stars are around the border, added by a punch. The date 1846 is below, from number punches, arranged so the digits slant slightly to the right. Irregular dentils are inside the rim. On the two specimens studied, each shows extensive die cracks at the bottom and lower right. The die has buckled slightly in that area.

The overall appearance of the token is somewhat crude and rustic. The engraver seems to have cut the obverse and reverse motifs directly into the die, while individual punches were used for the letters, numerals, and stars. It can be surmised that this is not the work of one of the leading shops in the token trade.

As to the number known I suggest perhaps half a dozen. Other estimates have ranged from only two to about a dozen. All or nearly all show signs of wear, indicating that they must have passed from hand to hand in commerce, perhaps at the value of a cent. In the early 19th century all sorts of copper tokens were commonly used in commerce for the value of a cent. Or they could have been lucky pocket tokens for the Mormons in that pivotal year, as discussed below.

What does the obverse motif represent in combination with the inscription? What do the initials stand for? Does the 1846 date represent the year the die was made, or does it observe some event or philosophy of that year, but was made later?

Does this token have a connection with Mormon history?

I give two modern citations below.

A Mormon Collectible

The Early Mormon Collectibles web site, an Internet forum for the title subject, includes this:¹

Rare Mormon Coin

Let the Egle Fly

Rare Mormon Coin/Token

Coin/Token. Great Salt Lake City, 1846 (?). Copper, 26 mm, scarce. Radiant surface in 8-lobed cartouche. Around LET THE E[A]GLE FLY. J.S.G.S.L.C.O. Rv: Eagle displayed. U.S. shield on its breast, 11 stars above. The eagle is of unusual design. Reeded edge (Bangs & Co. January 27, 1888, Lot # 321, Dr. Jay M. Galst collector).

Cataloger David Proskey in 1888 called this a pattern Mormon eagle (\$10) coin and the initials for "Joseph Smith, Great Salt Lake City." The "O" not explained. This is the only known specimen and in Very Good condition. It fetched \$3.60 in 1888. "We doubt this is a pattern eagle; more likely a very old, clumsy token produced in Utah after the Mexican War" (David Proskey). \$4500.00

John J. Ford Jr. Token Description

The sale of tokens and medals from the John J. Ford, Jr. Collection, conducted by Stack's Bowers Galleries in August 2013, included this:

Lot 22121.

Non-local. "1846" Let the Egle [sic] Fly. Rulau Ut-SL 7. Copper. 26 mm. MS-61 BN (NGC).

Golden brown toning with faint violet highlights. Struck on a planchet made from crudely refined copper showing pitting which we assume was due to the presence of impurities in the metal. Rulau notes that David Proskey considered this to be a pattern Mormon \$10, and in 1888 Proskey

expressed the view that J.S.G.S.L.C. signified "Joseph Smith, Great Salt Lake City."

Rulau noted that the letters in the inscription are J.S.G.S.L.C.O., and that Proskey never conjectured about the meaning of the final "O." Perhaps if Proskey were cataloging the same piece today he would conjecture instead "Joseph Smith—Great Salt Lake Coinage Office." Rulau thought the piece was actually a token dated to the era between 1846 and 1848...

The attribution of this token has been a matter of considerable discussion. The Mormons did not establish Great Salt Lake City until 1847, the year after the date of the token. And yet, the letters J.S.G.S.L.C. are sufficiently distinctive that it would be difficult to assign any other attribution. As to the initials J.S., these letters could relate to the founder of the religion, Joseph Smith, who was killed in 1844. At least a dozen or so examples are known today, and nearly all show signs of circulation. These are not numismatic issues made for collectors but in their time were used in circulation.

What do the inscriptions mean? The token, though dated 1846, could have been made later when Great Salt Lake City was a reality. In any event, Joseph Smith was a memory. "Let the E[a]gle Fly" could relate to some hope that Smith's aspirations or indeed the Mormon faith would take wing. Again, there is room for conjecture and little in the way of fact.

Dave Bowers, in an Internet discussion with Bob Leonard earlier this year, felt that it does have a Mormon

connection, but the circumstances of issue have yet to be determined. Prosky and Rulau felt the same way.

On the other hand, Bob Leonard suggests that it may not be from Utah at all and could have a genesis in Pennsylvania or New Jersey, based on the first known appearance at auction. One thing remains clear, that this is an interesting early American token of considerable rarity and charm and one that holds a secret, perhaps very important, that remains to be discovered.



Salt Lake City.

Perhaps a Related Token?

In *The Numismatist* in July 1911 Edgar H. Adams, under "Live American Numismatic Items," included what seems to be a token closely related in spirit and precisely related in date:

A little token in brass which is illustrated here and dated 1846 has attracted the interest of a number of collectors, and there is considerable conjecture as to its exact attribution. The date, taken in connection with the emblems on the obverse and reverse, would seem to indicate association with the Mormons.



The date was one of the most important in the history of that sect, for it was during 1846 that the great exodus took place from Nauvoo, Ill., which had the final result of the Mormons founding the City of Great Salt Lake in 1847 and of causing the desert-like valley of Salt Lake to bloom like a garden and become the center of one of the most prosperous communities in the United States.

The use of the emblems of the beehive and the clasped hands by the Mormons are well known to numismatists. The beehive was a favorite device of the followers of Joseph Smith and Brigham Young. It is the principal emblem on the state seal, and the first name of the Mormon territory was the "State of Deseret," the significance of the latter word being "honey bee." The emblem of the clasped hands was used on the first Mormon coinage of 1849, and the beehive was afterward used on the five-dollar gold piece of 1850 issued by the Deseret Assay Office.

The two inscriptions of UNION IS STRENGTH and DO YOUR DUTY were particularly appropriate to the year 1846, for at no time during the eventful career of the Mormons as an organized body were they subjected

Coins and Collectors: Golden Anniversary Edition

to greater trials than at the beginning of their vast relay expedition from the Mississippi River to California.

Items from Mormon History

Joseph Smith Jr., born in Sharon, Vermont, on December 23, 1805, moved with his family to New York about 1817. Beginning in the early 1820s he claimed to have experienced certain visions from on high that directed him to find engraved tablets with ancient writings describing a Judeo-Christian congregation in America. He published what he designated as the English translation of the plates as the *Book of Mormon* in 1830. In the same year he established the Church of Christ, with followers who were inspired by the ancient people and activities described in the book. In time they became known as Latter Day Saints. The Mormon religion caught hold quickly, and during the decade it attracted thousands of followers.

In 1831 Smith and many of his followers moved west, hoping to establish their Zion, a city of hope and glory. Independence, Missouri, was intended as the location of what was to be called New Jerusalem and was an outpost to the Mormon community that had been set up in Kirtland, Ohio (where they issued their own paper money). Smith drew up detailed plans for the settlement, including buildings and streets. Due to financial difficulties and conflicts with anti-Mormon elements in Missouri, the Zion plan was dropped.

Smith and his followers left Kirtland and established Nauvoo, Illinois. Critics of the Mormon practice of polygamy and of the honesty and integrity of Smith resulted in various actions, including a printed exposé of the religion. Smith ordered that the printing press used for this be destroyed. Matters went from bad to worse, and Smith was thrown in jail in Carthage, Illinois. A mob stormed the facility and killed him. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints



The Mormon mint in Salt Lake City (center right). (Howard Stansbury, *Exploration and Survey of the Great Salt Lake of Utah*, 1852)

lived on. He was succeeded as leader by Brigham Young.

Great Salt Lake City, as it was first called, was well-envisioned in 1846, the date on the two tokens, and was established in 1847 by Brigham Young and his followers, who had come there, arriving on July 24, to establish a modern Zion, a center for their religion. In 1868 "Great" was dropped from the name. It became the headquarters for the Mormon religion, as it remains today.

During the War with Mexico, 1846 and 1847, many Mormon men served with the United States Army. In early 1848 they headed home, many of them having come from San Francisco. They were in the right place at the right time. Gold was discovered on the American River by James Marshall in January. Word spread and thousands went to the area. The Mormons set up at Mormon Bar in the river, which proved to be incredibly rich. Later in the year most continued to the east.

In Great Salt Lake City a mint was established to coin the metal the men brought. Coins bore the inscription G.S.L.C.P.G., for Great Salt Lake City Pure Gold.

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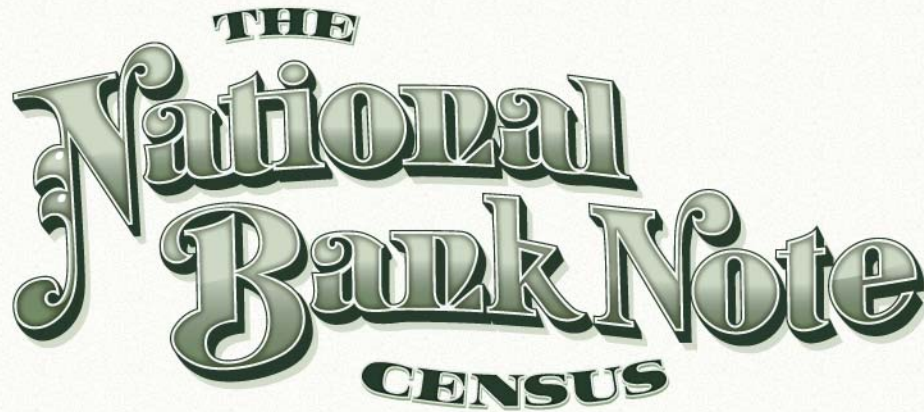
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THE National Bank Note CENSUS

For many of us who have purchased, collected or sold National Banknotes we have an interest in how many are known. This information is especially useful not only for helping determine value but also can be used when searching for a note from a specific town. There was a resource many have used which could be purchased in CD format that contained a census information as well as additional information. Andrew Shiva purchased the rights to this information several years ago and has made this information available via a subscription service on the internet. On the positive side, the information available has been significantly enhanced to include auction data, images of thousands of notes and much more. The only negative that I perceive is that the information is no longer portable unless you have an internet connection. Access to the information off-line is not possible however another advantage is that the information is current vs. waiting a year or so for the next version to become available.

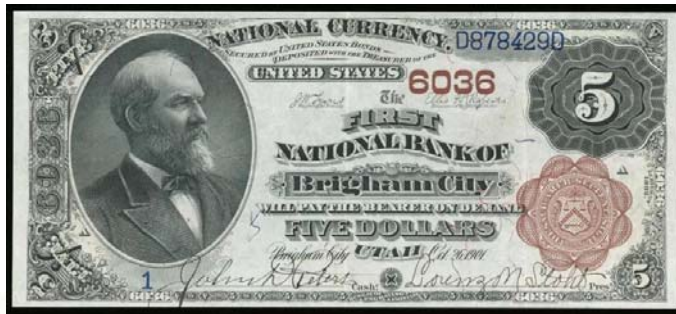
This census is available for subscription at www.nbncensus.com. Presently there are almost 375,000 notes in the census including over 92,000 images. There are also over 175,000 auction records recorded. Much more information is available with a very advanced search engine allowing members to locate specific notes easily and quickly. Cost, although not inexpensive at \$100/year, allows collectors access to information which is not available as a whole anywhere else.

National banknotes are one of the most interesting areas to collect in our hobby. Hundreds of notes are rarer than the 1804 Silver dollar, and many of these are obtainable for far less than a million dollars! In fact, while working at Heritage the general rule was for a 'national' to be considered rare and worth noting the population was for it to have a known population of less than 4! This is not to say that a note with a population of 5 or 6 is not scarce but is not one to drool over. Therefore it is not impossible to obtain a piece of numismatic history of which only half a dozen or so are known for significantly less than \$1000. National's are also easy to collect and no collector can ever hope to have a complete collection. There are no Elisabeth's in the National bank-

note collecting fraternity. Of the known documentation regarding these notes every state has several to dozens of unknown notes. It is still possible to make a new discovery. There are many ways to collect National's of which you can obtain a single example or by many themes as noted below.

- Hometown Note(s)
- Home State
- 50 State Capitols (There are a couple of real toughies to complete this)
- A single note from each state
- By type (And this can be just a few notes or greatly expanded)

One of the most impressive collections I personally observed a few years ago was while attending the Memphis currency show there was a virtually complete set of Red Seals from almost every state and all had serial number 1. So, if you are looking for something new to collect you might think about starting a collection of National Banknotes. Presently most prices are significantly below the highs experienced in 2008 which may soon change.



Doug Nyholm

Doug Nyholm (logout)



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Census

Charter: <input type="text"/>	Title: <input type="text"/>	Bank Serial: <input type="text"/>	Reported Date: (MM/DD/YYYY) From: <input type="text"/>
#Banks/Town: <input type="text"/>	City: <input type="text"/>	Bank Serial 1: <input type="text"/>	To: <input type="text"/>
Denomination: <input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add More..."/>	Large Count: From: <input type="text"/> To: <input type="text"/>	Institutional Notes <input type="checkbox"/> Exclude <input type="checkbox"/> Only
<input type="button" value="Add More..."/>	County: <input type="text"/>	Small Count: From: <input type="text"/> To: <input type="text"/>	
Type: <input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add More..."/>	Sheet: <input type="text"/>	
<input type="button" value="Add More..."/>	State: <input type="text"/>	Image: <input type="text"/>	
Large/Small: <input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add More..."/>	Auction: <input type="text"/>	
Gold: <input type="checkbox"/>	Territory: <input type="checkbox"/>	TPG Graded: <input type="text"/>	
		CCFT: <input type="text"/>	

50 records per page

1571 matches - Page Page 1 of 32 1 2 3 4 5 6 > >>

State	Charter	# Banks	City	Title	Title #	Type	Denom	Bank Serial	Plate Letter	Treasury Serial	TER	CCFT	Grade	County
UT	6036	1	Brigham City	The First National Bank of	1	\$2BB	\$5	1	A	D878429D			EF - AU	BOX ELDER Auctions
UT	6036	1	Brigham City	The First National Bank of	1	\$2BB	\$10	1	B	Z641047			PCGS CHAU 55 PPQ	BOX ELDER Auctions
UT	6036	1	Brigham City	The First National Bank of	1	\$2BB	\$10	319	A	U645387U			About Uncirculated	BOX ELDER
UT	6036	1	Brigham City	The First National Bank of	1	\$2BB	\$10	319	B	U645387U			Uncirculated	BOX ELDER Institution
UT	6036	1	Brigham City	The First National Bank of	1	\$2BB	\$10	320	B	U645388U			Uncirculated	BOX ELDER Auctions



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Quiz Answers

Question #1 - B. Brockage

Question #2 - C. Very Weak Strike

Question #3 - C. Portion of design blank

Question #4 - B. Obv & Rev. not intended to be mated together

Question #5 - C. A struck coin struck again

Question #6 - C. A single coin struck many times

